



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*Flora*, 1875, No. 29. Dr. J. Müller gives, in the form of an analytical key, some account of new Brazilian *Rubiaceæ*. (This is continued in No. 30.) Dr. Leopold Dippel replies, with great asperity, to a recent communication by Dr. Sanio respecting the nature of the cell-wall in cambium. No. 31. Dr. Lad. Celakovsky, On the Intercalated Epipetalous Circle of Stamens (continued in No. 32, not yet finished). On the Genesis of Coloring Matters in Plants, by Dr. Carl Kraus, of Triesdorff (treating of the relations of *chromogen* to the colors of flowers, etc.). No. 33. Lindberg's new classification of the fifty-nine genera of European *Hepaticæ* is reprinted from a memoir in *Acta Societatis Scientiarum Fennicæ* X. President's Clark's lecture On the Circulation of Sap in Plants, 1874, is criticised at some length. The reviewer is discriminating, and points out some possible errors of interpretation, but appears to have thoroughly appreciated the wide range of experiments, and the energy with which the work was done.

*Botanische Zeitung*, No. 52. On the Development of Cambium, by Dr. W. Velten (examining Prof. N. J. C. Müller's views in regard to the development of Cambium). Reports of Societies: *Berlin*: Brefeld on Development of Certain Fungi. This number contains an interesting obituary notice of Dr. Bartling, author of *Ordines Naturales Plantarum* (1830), and professor at Göttingen. Dr. Bartling was born at Hanover, December 9, 1798, and died November 19, 1875. No. 1 (January 7, 1876). On the Influence of Light on the Color of Flowers, by E. Askenasy. (This account of experiments is not yet finished.) A few notices of plants by Ascheron. Professor Pfeffer criticises with the greatest severity, in a book-notice, the recent paper on vegetable movements, by E. Heckel, of Montpellier. He insists that Heckel has not observed ordinary caution in his work, and his results are wholly untrustworthy. A notice of the paper and the review will be soon given in a general note.

## ZOOLOGY.

BARTRAMIAN NAMES AGAIN: AN EXPLANATION.—In Dr. Coues's reply to my critique upon his article on Bartram's ornithological names he seems to have misunderstood my admissions, inasmuch as he says I have yielded the very point I wished to refute. The point at issue is not whether "Bartram's identifiable, described, and binomially named species" are entitled to recognition, for no one would be foolish enough to deny that. The few names of this character in Bartram's long list, or the "five or six" among the *twenty* (not *ten*) Dr. Coues claims as Bartramian in origin, I have of course freely admitted. But I do not see how excluding about three fourths of the names claimed by Dr. Coues as properly originating with Bartram is admitting the main point at issue, which is the recognition of species *not* identifiably described. The *real* difference between us is as to what constitutes a description. While Dr. Coues considers that such vague references to species as

“¶ *Falco pullarius*, the chicken hawk,” “\* *Calandra pratensis*, the May bird,” “\* *Passer agrestis*, the little field sparrow,” etc., are to be regarded as descriptions, especially if the coincidence of favorable circumstances renders it possible to *guess* with tolerable certainty what birds were meant, I do not. Neither do I consent that names such as these, whose application is mainly determinable by a process of exclusion based on the subsequent accumulation of knowledge for three fourths of a century, shall be taken to supplant others which have become familiar through long use, and which were originally accompanied by carefully and intelligently prepared descriptions, and in many cases also by admirable figures.

If Dr. Coues had insisted on the recognition of only those Bartramian names really identifiable by Bartram's descriptions, I should have accepted them without a word of protest; but when he coupled with them three times as many more which can be determined only on some other basis, and then rarely with any degree of certainty, I deemed it an innovation not to be quietly endured. I am very glad to see that even Dr. Coues himself has abandoned this extreme ground in his reply to my critique.

In conclusion I may say that I do not feel that Dr. Coues gave the reference to Bartram's recognition of the variation in size in animals of the same species from different localities quite the consideration it merits, for Bartram not only observed the facts, but correlated them into a general statement, and even raised the inquiry whether these differences be not the result of conditions of environment, — whether “the different soil and *situation of the country* may have contributed in some measure in *forming and establishing* the difference in *size and other qualities* betwixt them.” — J. A. ALLEN.

PELICANS IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY. — Pelicans (*P. fuscus*) are unusually numerous in San Francisco Bay this season, especially on the eastern side, along the Oakland shore. Recently, during a dense fog, a white pelican (*P. erythrorhyncus*) measuring ten feet from tip to tip of wings flew into the arms of a man in San Francisco. — R. E. C. STEARNS.

BEARS AND PANTHERS ON THE PACIFIC COAST. — Nine cinnamon bears were recently caught with steel traps on a ranch on the coast near Bodega Corners, Sonoma County, California; and William Bonness, a settler on the Little Chico, in Butte County, killed last month a family of California lions consisting of the parent pair and two cubs. Robert Ford also killed three in Oregon last month, and one was recently killed near Seattle, W. T., which measured nine feet four inches in length.

Deer are plentiful in San Bernardino County, and robins and larks are unusually abundant in the orchards of Santa Cruz, California. — R. E. C. STEARNS.

THE SEA-LIONS and other seals which frequent the rocky islets near the entrance to San Francisco Bay, at Point Lobos, have heretofore been

protected by law, having been regarded as objects of interest and curiosity to the San Franciscans and strangers visiting the neighborhood. The Cliff House at the point is a famous resort, and the road leading to it from the city a favorite drive; these animals, which are quite numerous, are a conspicuous feature in the attractions of the locality. The state fish commissioners, who are diligently working to stock the waters of the State with food fishes, find that the results of their labors are impaired through the voracity of the seals, which occupy a station especially favorable for preying upon the finny tribe. Recently a bill has been introduced in the legislature to repeal the protective act and to encourage their extermination.

It may well be questioned, however, whether more harm is not done by the Chinese fishermen who drag the waters inside of the bay and sweep them of everything that has life, whether fish or crustaceans, without regard to "age or condition," and who dry their "catch" for export either to the interior or to their native land. The amount of fish-food and of young fish thus caught and dried is undeniably very great, and should in some manner be regulated or controlled by legislation. The papers have recently contained an account of an attack on a boat made by a sea-lion. "As a Mexican Indian named Sacramentus was crossing Tomales Bay at Marshall, the boat was attacked by a large sea-lion. The Indian dealt the beast a heavy blow on the head with a hatchet, but without repulsing the animal, which again attacked the boat, with renewed fury. It was finally killed and afterward towed ashore. The fishermen estimated its weight at twelve hundred pounds." — R. E. C. STEARNS.

EYES AND NO EYES. — In the chaetopod worms of the cold deep water of the Atlantic "we miss neither the colors nor the eyes which are met with in coast regions" high north. Ehlers believes that these colors and eyes are preserved in the lightless depths in consequence of "new animals ever migrating down from the brighter layers of water, and so preventing the disappearance of these parts." As the surface animals go southward and into water warmed superficially by the Gulf Stream, they retire into the depths. To this Ranke, in the same volume (xxv.) of the *Zeitschrift für wissenschaftlich Zoölogie*, adds another pregnant suggestion as to the persistence of eyes where they seem to be useless; namely, that in leeches their very simple eyes have also sensations of touch and taste; indeed, that they are not simply eyes which may upon occasion serve other ends, but rather neutral organs of sense which can act in various directions, as needs in the long run may require. Some confirmation of this "appears partly from the fact that organs quite similar to these so-called eyes on the head of the leech occur also in the whole of the rest of the body." We take these statements from a German correspondent of *Nature*, November 25th.

REMARKABLE HABITS OF A TREE-FROG. — Professor Peters has re-

cently described the mode of deposit of its eggs employed by a species of tree-frog (*Polypedates*) from tropical Western Africa. This species deposits its eggs, as is usual among batrachians, in a mass of albuminous jelly; but instead of placing this in the water, it attaches it to the leaves of trees which border the shore and overhang a water-hole or pond. Here the albumen speedily dries, forming a horny or glazed coating of the leaf, inclosing the unimpregnated eggs in a strong envelope. Upon the advent of the rainy season, the albumen is softened, and with the eggs is washed into the pool below, now filled with water. Here the male frog finds the masses, and occupies himself with their impregnation.

A SNAKE-EATING SNAKE. — Some years ago Professor Cope described the snake-eating habits of the *Oxyrrhopus plumbeus* Wied, a rather large species of snake which is abundant in the intertropical parts of America. A specimen of it from Martinique was observed to have swallowed the greater part of a large *fer-de-lance*, the largest venomous snake in the West Indies. The *Oxyrrhopus* had seized the *fer-de-lance* by the snout, thus preventing it from inflicting fatal wounds, and had swallowed a great part of its length, when caught and preserved by the collector. More recently a specimen was brought by Mr. Gabb from Costa Rica, almost five feet in length, which had swallowed nearly three feet of a large harmless snake (*Herpetodryas carinatus*) about six feet in length. The head was partially digested, while three feet projected from the mouth of the *Oxyrrhopus* in a sound condition. The *Oxyrrhopus* is entirely harmless, although spirited and pugnacious in its manners. Professor Cope suggests that its introduction into regions infested with venomous snakes, like the island of Martinique, would be followed by beneficial results. The East Indian snake-eater, *Naja elaps*, is unavailable for this purpose, as it is itself one of the most dangerous of venomous snakes.

### ANTHROPOLOGY.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES. — In the third part of the *Bulletin de la Société d'Anthropologie* for 1875 is a paper by M. Coudereau on articulate sounds, with five tables of classification. This paper merited sufficient attention to justify the appointment of a committee consisting of MM. Chauvée, Picot, Hovelacque, Coudereau, De Caix St. Aymour, Millescamps, De Charencey, Andre Lefevre, Krishaber, Parrot, Proust, Waisse, and Onimus to examine into its merits. The same subject was discussed at subsequent meetings. In the same number, M. de Mortillet reported the reception of a letter from M. Babert de Juillé, announcing the discovery of a trepanned skull in the dolmen of Bougon in Deux Sevres. M. Broca stated that this was the fifth locality wherein this custom had been traced.

Part xvii. of *Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ* has been received, containing the